

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A degradation diagnostic method, comprising:

inputting an equipment degradation diagnostic request from a diagnosis requester through a network;

selecting a degradation diagnosis request handler in accordance with degradation diagnosis execution condition information specified ~~in respect of~~ for at least one degradation diagnosis request handler and condition information according to which said diagnosis requester requests degradation diagnosis;

requesting said selected degradation diagnosis request handler to execute the degradation diagnosis;

acquiring execution results of the degradation diagnosis by said selected degradation diagnostic request handler; and

outputting the execution results through said network to said diagnosis requester, wherein, if environmental information utilized in the degradation diagnosis by said selected degradation diagnosis request handler is deficient, a measurement request handler of said deficient environmental information is selected and is requested to measure said deficient environmental information, and results of measurement of said deficient environmental information are provided to said selected degradation diagnosis request handler.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) A degradation diagnostic method, comprising:

registering in a diagnostic results database contents of an equipment degradation diagnostic request and execution results of a degradation diagnosis in accordance with said equipment degradation diagnostic request;

first inputting a degradation diagnostic request from a diagnosis requester through a network; and

reading the execution results of a the degradation diagnosis in accordance with a degradation diagnostic request having a prescribed relationship from said diagnostic results database if said degradation diagnostic request having a prescribed relationship with said degradation diagnostic request input from a diagnosis requester is registered in said diagnostic results database; and

outputting the execution results of a the degradation diagnosis to said diagnosis requester through said network.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) The degradation diagnostic method according to claim 1, further comprising:

~~acquiring execution results of degradation diagnosis obtained by said selected degradation diagnostic request handler and outputting said execution results to said diagnosis requester through said network;~~

registering said execution results and contents of said degradation diagnostic request that was a cause of said execution results in a diagnostic results database;

~~newly second~~ inputting a another degradation diagnostic request from a another diagnosis requester through said network; and

reading said execution results of a the degradation diagnosis in accordance with a degradation diagnostic request having a prescribed relationship from said diagnostic results database if a the degradation diagnostic request having a the prescribed relationship with said degradation diagnostic request input from ~~a new second~~ the another diagnosis requester is registered in said diagnostic results database; and

outputting said execution results to said another ~~new~~ diagnosis requester through said network.

Claim 4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) The degradation diagnosis method according to any one of claims 1 to [[4]] 3, further comprising:

inputting an equipment maintenance request from a the diagnosis requester that obtained said execution results through said network; and
requesting a maintenance by selecting a maintenance request handler.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) A degradation diagnosis method comprising:
storing information for diagnostic purposes specifying degradation diagnostic processing whereby a state of degradation of equipment is diagnosed in a diagnostic database;

inputting said information utilized in said degradation diagnostic processing from a diagnosis requester through a network;
executing said degradation diagnostic processing in accordance with said information for diagnostic purposes stored in said diagnostic database and information input from said diagnosis requester to obtain execution results; and
outputting said execution results to said diagnosis requester through said network,

wherein, if environmental information utilized in the degradation diagnosis is deficient, said deficient environmental information is measured, and results of

measurement of said deficient environmental information are provided for said selected degradation diagnosis.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) A degradation diagnosis method, comprising:

storing information for diagnostic purposes that specifies degradation diagnostic processing whereby a state of degradation of equipment is diagnosed and manual information relating to said degradation diagnostic processing in a diagnostic database;

designating sending out of an environmental evaluation unit if a request for sending out of said environmental evaluation unit to be utilized in measurement for evaluation of an environment is input from a diagnosis requester through a network;

outputting said manual information stored in said diagnostic database to said diagnosis requester through the network if a request for output of said manual information is input through said network from said diagnosis requester;

inputting information utilized in said execution diagnostic processing from said diagnosis requester through said network;

executing said degradation diagnostic processing in accordance with the information for diagnostic purposes stored in said diagnostic database and said information input from said diagnosis requester and obtaining execution results; and

outputting said execution results to said diagnosis requester through said network.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) A method of degradation diagnosis according to claim 7, further comprising:

when said environmental evaluation unit is updated, inputting new manual information involved in said updating; and

storing said new manual information in said diagnostic database.

Claim 9 (Original) A method of degradation diagnosis according to claim 7 or 8, further comprising:

storing new information for diagnostic purposes that specifies said updated degradation diagnostic processing in said diagnostic database when said degradation diagnostic processing is updated.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) A method of degradation diagnosis according to any one of claim 6 to [[9]] 8, further comprising:

~~executing said degradation diagnostic processing in accordance with information for diagnostic purposes stored in said diagnostic database and information input from said diagnosis requester and obtaining execution results;~~

~~outputting said execution results to said diagnosis requester through said network;~~

~~storing said execution results and said information input from said diagnosis requester in a diagnostic results database;~~

inputting information utilized in said degradation diagnostic processing from a new diagnosis requester through said network; and

reading said execution results of the degradation diagnostic processing in accordance with information having ~~said~~ a prescribed relationship from said diagnostic results database if information having a the prescribed relationship with the information input from said new diagnosis requester is registered in said diagnostic database; and

outputting the execution results to said new diagnosis requester through said network.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) A method of degradation diagnosis according to any one of claims 6 to [[10]] 8, further comprising:

managing service charges relating to the degradation diagnosis requested by said diagnosis requester.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended) A degradation diagnosis mediation device, comprising:

a selection section that inputs configured to input an equipment degradation diagnostic request from a diagnosis requester through a network and ~~selects~~ to select a degradation diagnosis request handler in accordance with degradation diagnosis execution condition information specified ~~in respect of~~ for at least one degradation diagnosis request handler and condition information according to which said diagnosis requester requests a degradation diagnosis, and ~~requests~~ to request said selected degradation diagnosis request handler to execute the degradation diagnosis; and

a result output section that acquires configured to acquire execution results of the degradation diagnosis by said selected degradation diagnostic request handler and ~~outputs~~ to output said execution results through said network to said diagnosis requester,

wherein, if environmental information utilized in the degradation diagnosis by said selected degradation diagnosis request handler is deficient, a measurement request handler of said deficient environmental information is selected and is requested to measure said deficient environmental information, and results of measurement of said deficient environmental information are provided to said selected degradation diagnosis request handler.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended) A degradation diagnosis mediation device,
comprising:

a diagnostic results database in which is registered a content of an equipment
degradation diagnostic request and execution results of a degradation diagnosis in
accordance with a degradation diagnostic request;

a reusable results output section that inputs a configured to output the
degradation diagnostic request from a diagnostic requester through a network and, if a
degradation diagnostic request having a prescribed relationship with said degradation
diagnostic request input from said diagnosis requester is registered in said diagnostic
results database, ~~reads~~ to read said execution results of ~~a~~ the degradation diagnosis in
accordance with said degradation diagnostic request having ~~a~~ the prescribed relationship
from said diagnostic results database and ~~outputs~~ to output said execution results to said
diagnosis requester through said network.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended) The degradation mediation device according to
claim 12, further comprising:

a results registration section that acquires configured to acquire the execution
results of the degradation diagnosis obtained by said selected degradation diagnostic
request handler and ~~registers~~ to register said execution results and a content of said
degradation diagnostic request that was an execution cause in a diagnostic results
database; and

a reusable results output section that configured to newly inputs a input another
degradation diagnostic request from ~~a~~ another diagnosis requester through said
network[[]] and, if a degradation diagnostic request having a prescribed relationship
with said another degradation diagnostic request input from ~~a new~~ the another diagnosis

requester is registered in said diagnostic results database, ~~reads~~ to read said execution results of a ~~the another~~ degradation diagnosis in accordance with said ~~another~~ degradation diagnostic request having said prescribed relationship from said diagnostic results database and ~~outputs~~ to output said execution results to said ~~new~~ another diagnosis requester through said network.

Claim 15 (Canceled).

Claim 16 (Currently Amended) The degradation mediation device according to any one of claim 12 to ~~15~~ 14, further comprising:

a maintenance request selection section ~~whereby~~ configured to input an equipment maintenance request ~~is input~~ from a diagnosis requester that obtained said execution results through said network and to request maintenance ~~is requested~~ by selecting a maintenance request handler.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended) A degradation diagnostic device, comprising:

a diagnostic section ~~that inputs~~ configured to input information utilized in degradation diagnostic processing whereby a state of degradation of equipment is diagnosed from a diagnosis requester through a network, ~~accesses~~ to access a diagnostic database that stores information for diagnostic purposes that specifies said degradation diagnostic processing, ~~executes~~ to execute said degradation diagnostic processing in accordance with said information for diagnostic purposes stored in said diagnostic database and information input from said diagnosis requester ~~and obtains~~ to obtain execution results, ~~outputs~~ and to output said execution results to said diagnosis requester through said network,

wherein, if environmental information utilized in the degradation diagnosis is deficient, said deficient environmental information is measured, and results of measurement of said deficient environmental information are provided for said selected degradation diagnosis.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended) The degradation diagnostic device according to claim 17, further comprising:

an output section ~~whereby~~ configured to input a request for reading manual information relating to degradation diagnostic processing ~~is input~~ from a diagnosis requester through said network and to output said manual information ~~is output~~ through said network to said diagnosis requester that requested a reading.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended) The degradation diagnostic device according to claim 17 or 18, further comprising:

a sending section ~~whereby~~ configured to input a request for sending out an environmental evaluation unit utilized for measurement for evaluation of an environment state in which an equipment is arranged ~~is input~~ from a the diagnosis requester through said network and to give instructions ~~are given~~ for sending out of said environmental evaluation unit.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended) The degradation diagnostic device according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 17 ~~to 19~~ or 18, further comprising:

a storage section ~~that stores~~ configured to store in said diagnostic database execution results obtained by said diagnostic requester; and

a storage management section ~~that inputs~~ configured to input information utilized for said degradation diagnostic processing from ~~a new~~ another diagnosis requester through said network and, if information having a prescribed relationship with said information input from said ~~new~~ another diagnosis requester is registered in said diagnostic database, ~~reads~~ to read from said diagnostic database execution results of said degradation diagnostic processing based on the information having a the prescribed relationship and to output said execution results to said ~~new~~ another diagnosis requester through said network.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended) The degradation diagnostic device according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 17 to 20 or 18, further comprising:

a requester information management section ~~that manages~~ configured to manage information of diagnosis requesters; and

a fee management section ~~that manages~~ configured to manage service fees resulting from requests relating to the degradation diagnosis input through said network from said diagnosis requester utilizing the information of said requester information management section.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended) A computer-readable recording medium on which is recorded a program for implementing on a computer, said program comprising:

a selection function ~~whereby~~ configured to input an equipment degradation diagnosis request ~~is input~~ from a diagnosis requester through a network, to select a degradation diagnosis request handler ~~is selected~~ based on execution condition information of a prescribed degradation diagnosis concerning at least one degradation diagnosis request handler and condition information according to which said diagnosis requester requests the

degradation diagnosis, and to request execution of the degradation diagnosis by said selected degradation diagnosis requests handler ~~is requested~~; and

a results output function ~~that acquires~~ configured to acquire execution results of the degradation diagnosis obtained by said selected degradation diagnosis requests handler and ~~outputs~~ to output said execution results to said diagnosis requester through the network.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended) A computer-readable recording medium on which is recorded a program for implementing on a computer, said program comprising:

a results registration function ~~whereby~~ configured to register a content of an equipment degradation diagnosis request and execution results of a degradation diagnosis in accordance with said equipment degradation diagnosis request ~~are registered~~ in a diagnostic results database; and

a reusable results output function ~~that inputs~~ configured to input a degradation diagnostic request from a diagnostic requester through a network and, if a degradation diagnostic request having a prescribed relationship with a the degradation diagnostic request input from said diagnosis requester is registered in said diagnostic results database, ~~reads~~ to read said execution results of a the degradation diagnosis in accordance with said degradation diagnostic request having a the prescribed relationship from said diagnostic results database and ~~outputs~~ to output said execution results to said diagnosis requester through said network.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended) The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 22 ~~on which is recorded a program for implementing on a computer~~, said program further comprising:

a results registration function ~~whereby~~ configured to acquire the execution results of degradation diagnosis executed by said selected degradation diagnosis request handler ~~are acquired~~ and to register the execution results and a content of said degradation diagnostic request that was an execution cause ~~are registered~~ in a diagnostic results database; and

a reusable results output function ~~that inputs a~~ configured to input another degradation diagnostic request from a ~~new~~ another diagnostic requester through a the network and, if a degradation diagnostic request having a prescribed relationship with said degradation diagnostic request input from a ~~new~~ the another diagnosis requester is registered in said diagnostic results database, ~~reads~~ to read the execution results of a the degradation diagnosis in accordance with a the degradation diagnostic request having a prescribed relationship from said diagnostic results database and ~~outputs~~ to output said execution results to said ~~new~~ another diagnosis requester through said network.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended) A computer-readable recording medium on which is recorded a program for implementing on a computer, said program comprising:

a diagnostic function ~~whereby~~ configured to input information utilized for degradation diagnostic processing whereby a state of degradation of equipment is diagnosed is input from a diagnosis requester through a network, to access a diagnostic database in which is stored information for diagnostic purposes that specifies said degradation diagnostic processing ~~is accessed~~, to form said degradation diagnostic processing ~~is formed~~ in accordance with information for diagnostic purposes stored in said diagnostic database and information input from said diagnosis requester, and to output said execution results ~~are output~~ to said diagnosis requester through said network,

wherein, if environmental information utilized in the degradation diagnosis is deficient, said deficient environmental information is measured, and results of measurement of said deficient environmental information are provided for said selected degradation diagnosis.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended) The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 25 ~~on which is recorded a program for implementing on a computer~~, said program further comprising:

a storage function ~~of storing~~ configured to store in said diagnostic database the execution results obtained by said diagnostic function and information input from said diagnosis requester; and

a storage management function ~~whereby~~ configured to input information utilized for said degradation diagnostic processing ~~is input from a new another~~ diagnosis requester through said network and, if information having a prescribed relationship with information input from ~~a new another~~ diagnosis requester is registered in said diagnostic database, to read results of said degradation diagnostic processing in accordance with the information having said prescribed relationship ~~are read~~ from said diagnostic database and ~~output~~ to output the results to said new diagnosis requester through said network.

Claim 27 (New) A degradation diagnostic method, comprising:

inputting an equipment degradation diagnostic request from a diagnosis requester through a network;

selecting a degradation diagnosis request handler in accordance with degradation diagnosis execution condition information specified for at least one degradation diagnosis

request handler and condition information according to which said diagnosis requester requests degradation diagnosis;

requesting said selected degradation diagnosis request handler to execute degradation diagnosis;

acquiring execution results of the degradation diagnosis by said selected degradation diagnostic request handler;

outputting the execution results through said network to said diagnosis requester;

registering said execution results and contents of said degradation diagnostic request that was a cause of said execution results in a diagnostic results database;

second inputting another degradation diagnostic request from another diagnosis requester through said network;

reading said execution results of the degradation diagnosis in accordance with a degradation diagnostic request having a prescribed relationship from said diagnostic results database if the degradation diagnostic request having the prescribed relationship with said degradation diagnostic request input from the another diagnosis requester is registered in said diagnostic results database; and

outputting said execution results to said another diagnosis requester through said network.

Claim 28 (New) A degradation diagnosis mediation device, comprising:

a selection section configured to input an equipment degradation diagnostic request from a diagnosis requester through a network and to select a degradation diagnosis request handler in accordance with degradation diagnosis execution condition information specified for at least one degradation diagnosis request handler and condition information according to which said diagnosis requester requests a

degradation diagnosis, and to request said selected degradation diagnosis request handler to execute the degradation diagnosis;

a result output section configured to acquire execution results of the degradation diagnosis by said selected degradation diagnostic request handler and to output said execution results through said network to said diagnosis requester;

a results registration section configured to acquire execution results of the degradation diagnosis obtained by said selected degradation diagnostic request handler and to register said execution results and a content of said degradation diagnostic request that was an execution cause in a diagnostic results database; and

a reusable results output section configured to newly input another degradation diagnostic request from another diagnosis requester through said network and, if a degradation diagnostic request having a prescribed relationship with said another degradation diagnostic request input from the another diagnosis requester is registered in said diagnostic results database, to read said execution results of the another degradation diagnosis in accordance with said another degradation diagnostic request having said prescribed relationship from said diagnostic results database and to output said execution results to said another diagnosis requester through said network.

Claim 29 (New) A computer-readable recording medium on which is recorded a program for implementing on a computer, said program comprising:

a diagnostic function configured to input information utilized for degradation diagnostic processing whereby a state of degradation of equipment is diagnosed from a diagnosis requester through a network, to access a diagnostic database in which is stored information for diagnostic purposes that specifies said degradation diagnostic processing, that forms said degradation diagnostic processing in accordance with information

for diagnostic purposes stored in said diagnostic database and information input from said diagnosis requester, and to output said execution results to said diagnosis requester through said network; and

a storage management function configured to input information utilized for said degradation diagnostic processing from another diagnosis requester through said network and, if information having a prescribed relationship with information input from another diagnosis requester is registered in said diagnostic database, to read results of said degradation diagnostic processing in accordance with the information having said prescribed relationship from said diagnostic database and to output the results to said new diagnosis requester through said network.